

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Reply, claims 1-12 are amended and claims 13-20 are added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sato et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,832) (hereinafter Sato), in view of Ohkura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,128,009) (hereinafter Ohkura). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The asserted combination of references fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, as required by Section 103. For example, the asserted combination of references fails to teach or suggest at least displaying a reservation confirmation screen if the user selects a reservation confirmation mode in a two-dimensional grid, a first dimension representing days of a week and a second to dimension representing times of a day, as recited in claim 1.

According to one aspect of a preferred embodiment of the present invention, a graphical display of reservation viewing and reservation recording is provided. For example, referring to Figure 6 of the preferred embodiment, a grid display is depicted. Days of the week are displayed across the top of the grid on the horizontal axis. Times of the day are displayed on the left side of the grid along a vertical axis. Within the grid, names of shows are displayed corresponding to the date and time that they are scheduled. Accordingly, a user can view the selected events for a particular time frame on a graphical display that corresponds to the time and day that the

displayed events are scheduled. Additionally, all scheduled events in a date and time range can be seen at once on the grid.

Additionally, for events that are displayed, a background of the item showing the corresponding program title can be provided with a color code indicating the type of event that is scheduled. For example, the color could indicate whether the selection is for reservation viewing, reservation recording, or a simultaneous selection of both.

Sato relates to an electronic program guide and a display for displaying the electronic program guide information. For example, referring to Figures 8-10, Sato teaches that a user can reserve a show from a program guide for a recording. As shown in Figure 8, the electronic program guide screen displays a single day, and shows a schedule for selected starting times. Using a remote control, an operator would move a cursor up or down to select a desired program. The user would then select a confirmation key to reserve a recording of the selected program. The reservation confirmation, however, only consists of a message at the bottom of the screen indicating that the reservation has been made, as shown in Figure 10 (item C). Consequently, Sato fails to teach or suggest at least displaying a reservation confirmation screen on a two-dimensional grid, and fails to teach or suggest any features of the grid.

Ohkura relates to a program guide controller. Ohkura teaches that a program table guide control apparatus generates program table picture including date and hour information. Thus, referring to Figures 7A-7D, Ohkura teaches that the graphical display has a column for date, a second column for hour, a third column for program, and a fourth column for genre. A user

thus first selects the date from the day column, then selects a time from the hour column. According to the selected genre, various titles of programs to be broadcast at the selected date and time are displayed. See column 9, lines 25-56.

As an initial matter, Applicant asserts that the programming guide taught by Ohkura is not a reservation confirmation screen. Rather, it shows all shows of a genre, regardless of a reservation status. Moreover, even if such a guide were to be considered a reservation confirmation screen, Ohkura fails to teach or suggest at least displaying a reservation confirmation screen in a two-dimensional grid, a first dimension representing days of a week and a second dimension representing times of a day.

Consequently, the asserted combination of references fails to teach or suggest all of the claimed features. Hence, a prima facie case of obviousness cannot be made. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9, 11, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) the over Sato, in view of Ohkura, and further in view of Schein et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,151,059) (hereinafter Schein). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2-9, 11, and 12 have been amended to attend to informalities, and not to modify the scope of these claims. The asserted combination of references fails to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, as required by Section 103. For example, claims 2-9, 11, and 12 depend from claim 1. Sato and Ohkura are discussed above with respect to claim 1. Schein, either alone or in combination with the other references, fails to teach or suggest the claimed features.

For example, Schein relates to an electronic program guide having interactive areas. Schein, however, also fails to teach or suggest displaying a reservation confirmation screen. Moreover, to the extent that the electronic program guide is considered to be a reservation confirmation screen, Schein teaches a graphical display having a first dimension representing times of a day, and a second dimension representing a channel number/network identification. See, for example, Figure 1. Moreover, in another embodiment, as shown in Figure 16, Schein teaches that particular programs can be singled out for displaying all occurrences of the selected program in chronological order. See column 12, lines 46-49. In this embodiment, however, both dates and times are shown along the same axis.

Consequently, Schein, either alone or in combination with the other references, fails to teach or suggest at least displaying a reservation confirmation screen in a two-dimensional grid, a first dimension representing days of the week and a second dimension representing times of a day. Claims 2-9, 11, and 12 depend from claim 1, and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1. These claims are additionally allowable based on the recited features in those claims. Because the prima facie case of obviousness cannot be made, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants notes with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter and claim 10. Claims 10 has been amended to attend to informalities. It is believed that the scope of this claim has not been modified. Additionally, new claims 13-20 have been added and are believed to be in condition for allowance. Promptly examination and allowance is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Anthony H. Nourse**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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